



CMA PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

as of Feb. 25, 2009:

— **Anniston Chemical Activity, Ala.:** The Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility is in a changeover period in preparation for the final chemical munitions demilitarization phase, mustard (blister) agent-filled munitions. This destruction phase is scheduled to begin in spring or early summer. Since operations began in August 2003, a total of 361,802 GB and VX-filled munitions, as well as 293,003 gallons of liquid nerve agent have been safely eliminated from Anniston's storage igloos and the U.S. inventory.

— **Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah:** Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility has safely destroyed 3,108 mustard agent-filled ton containers and 54,453 mustard agent-filled 155 mm projectiles. Mustard operations began in August 2006.

— **Newport Chemical Depot, Ind.:** Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility's work force continues closure activities. In the utility building neutralization bay, agent pumps and piping have been removed. Demolition of the Chemical Agent Transfer System (CHATS) glove boxes is complete, as well as the airlock installation between the toxic maintenance area and the CHATS. Pressure washing of the floors and walls of the neutralization bay is in progress while removal of the hydrolysate storage tanks is scheduled to be completed the end of February.

— **Pine Bluff Chemical Activity, Ark.:** Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (PBCDF) safely continues with mustard agent ton container disposal operations. Set up for the Agent Trial Burns (ATB) was completed in the Metal Parts Furnace (MPF) and Liquid Incinerator (LIC), and the high temperature tests for the ATBs were successfully completed in both furnaces. The mustard ATBs consist of a series of high and low temperature tests in both the MPF and LIC. These tests are designed to demonstrate the environmental performance of the furnace systems to both the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and Region 6 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The ATBs are scheduled to conclude in early March.

— **Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.:** The Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility continues its changeover from VX nerve agent to mustard (blister). Mustard agent processing is planned to begin in late spring or early summer. The Umatilla Local Redevelopment Authority, formed to plan for community re-use of the Umatilla Chemical Depot once chemical weapons are eliminated, has been officially recognized by the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA). The OEA is the Department of Defense's primary source for helping communities that are adversely impacted by such programs as Base Realignment and Closure.

CMA Leadership Conference Comprises Key Topics

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) held another of its long-standing Leadership Conferences Jan. 27-29. CMA headquarters and site management attended the event, which was held at the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility in Edgewood, Md. CMA Director Conrad Whyne opened the conference with remarks regarding the overall program.

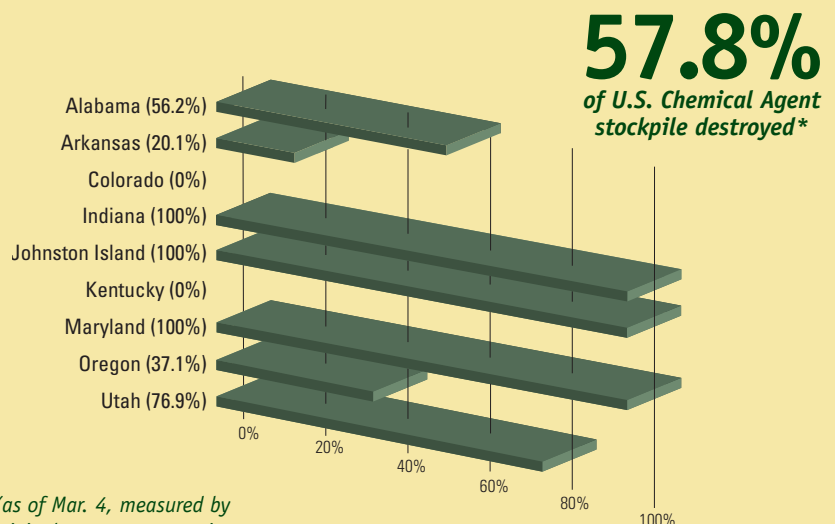
Some of the topics on the first day included security, the National Security Personnel System, personally identifiable information and CMA's strategic plan. Transition was the topic on the second day. The site project managers and commanders from each storage and chemical demilitarization site spoke about past accomplishments, challenges,

the path forward and any assistance they may need from headquarters. The final day's topic was safety, with an emphasis on sharing lessons learned between the chemical demilitarization facilities and the depots or activities.

The keynote speaker on the final day was Mr. Charles T. Morecraft. His presentation, "Remember Charlie," stressed the importance of safety with his personal account of an accident that he experienced while working for Exxon Corporation where more than 60 percent of his body was burned. He added that even though workers are knowledgeable about safety precautions, they sometimes become careless and complacent, which can lead to serious or fatal accidents.

"The site project managers and commanders... spoke about past accomplishments, challenges, the path forward..."

CMA - U.S. CHEMICAL AGENT STOCKPILE DESTROYED



* (as of Mar. 4, measured by original agent tonnage since entry into force – April 29, 1997)



Umatilla Chemical Depot to Hold Commemoration for World War II Depot Workers

The Umatilla Chemical Depot in Hermiston, Ore., will host a commemoration ceremony on March 19 to honor family members and descendants of the six workers who died in the March 1944 World War II accidental explosion of conventional munitions at the depot. This year marks the 65th anniversary and the commemoration will be extended to those workers or family members, including current depot employees.

On March 21, 1944, depot storage igloo B-1014 containing 264 500-pound conventional bombs was destroyed in an accident. All of the bombs exploded, killing Kenneth LeRoy Fraser, foreman; Lance Stultz, lift truck operator; William Sanders, munitions handler; Harry Dwight Sever, munitions handler; Hiram Cook, truck driver and Alice Wolgamott, junior laborer. Two crew members working on a nearby railroad pier survived – Glenn P. Long, foreman, and Cecil Pennington, foreman. An extensive Army investigation was unable to

determine the specific cause of the accident. This is the only fatal munitions handling accident in the history of the depot since it opened in 1941 on the eve of World War II.

“It’s important to honor World War II workers and their family members for their service and sacrifice,” said Lt. Col. Bob Stein, Depot Commander. “Memorial markers at the 1944 accident site and on the depot parade ground still serve as reminders that munitions must be handled safely.”

A similar commemoration ceremony was held last year. Anyone interested in attending the event should provide their name, address, phone number and photo ID number such as a driver’s license number by Wednesday, March 11, to Steve Meyers. Steve is located at the Umatilla Chemical Disposal Outreach Office in Hermiston and can be reached at (541) 564-9339. This information will be used to permit access to the depot for a brief ceremony.

DCD Deputy Commander Daniel Hancock Selected for Senior Service College

The Deputy Commander of Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD), Daniel Hancock, has been selected to attend the Senior Service College (SSC). He will join a select group as thousands of military and government civilians apply to the SSC but only a small percentage are chosen to attend.

DCD Commander, Col. Gerald L. Gladney, said Hancock’s selection is a prestigious honor. “This selection is a clear message that the Department of Defense and the Department of the Army have identified Mr. Hancock as a candidate for service in positions of increased responsibility at the highest leadership levels. And, I am confident that Mr. Hancock will serve our great nation with tremendous distinction,” said Col. Gladney.

Hancock joined DCD as the deputy commander in January 2007. Prior to this position, he served as the chief of staff and later as the deputy commander at the Pueblo Chemical Depot, Colo. He will leave DCD later this year to begin the 10-month SCC program at the Air War College (AWC) in Alabama.

The War Department established the AWC in 1946 with the mission to prepare students to be joint strategic leaders and to advance innovative thought on national security and military issues through the mastery of dual challenges—academic enhancement and professional development.

Heel Transfer System Built at TOCDF to be used at UMCDF

The Heel Transfer System (HTS), designed by workers at the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF), will soon help at least one other U.S. chemical demilitarization site eliminate its stockpile of mustard (HD) ton containers. Engineers from the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) recently visited TOCDF to gain hands-on experience and knowledge of the HTS. The engineers spent two days “test driving” their own HTS, which was built by TOCDF workers. The HTS will be disassembled and shipped to Umatilla, Ore.

“We’re trying to make it as easy as possible for them,” said Tim Hutson, TOCDF’s HTS project manager. Hutson, along with Kesley Kimmel, system engineer, will travel to Umatilla to assist with installing, testing and operating UMCDF’s new system.

While the two sites have been sharing lessons learned, including the glove boxes designed at TOCDF and used to safely vent hydrogen from HD ton containers, this is the first time the workers at the two sites have shared such a complicated disposal project.

TOCDF workers took less than four months in 2007 to develop the HTS, which uses a high-pressure, warm-water spray to efficiently reduce

the heels or residual solids so the ton containers can be processed through the metal parts furnace.

Workers at TOCDF began HTS operations Oct. 3, 2008, and will destroy more than 3,000 ton containers from the Deseret Chemical Depot that contain low mercury and high heels. UMCDF workers expect to start operating their HTS next month to help destroy more than 2,000 HD ton containers.

Hutson added that the HTS, or certain aspects of it, may also be used at the sites in Pine Bluff, Ark., and Anniston, Ala.



Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility workers built this heel transfer system, which will be disassembled and shipped to Umatilla, Ore., to help the Umatilla Chemical Depot dispose of its stockpile of HD mustard ton containers.

CMA's Public Web site Launches Phase II

How many ton containers has the Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility processed? What are the various systems that non-stockpile uses? When was the last VX nerve agent processed? No, this isn’t a game of chemical demilitarization trivia. But, if you want the answers to these questions plus any other information regarding the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA), you can visit the public Web site.

The site has undergone a major facelift – we’ve removed many of the pages that were redundant and updated others. We’ve also made the search function easier to use; we know you will find the information that you are seeking.

But, we are not finished. We recently rolled out an interactive timeline that features chemical weapons storage and destruction milestones from the beginning of CMA all the way to the present. By clicking on a year, information about the program will appear. If you want to see a year that doesn’t appear on the screen, drag the mouse to the end of the page and the timeline will scroll, showing more information.

So, when you have a moment, check out the changes at www.cma.army.mil. If you see anything that you think we can improve on, drop us a line through the “Contact Us” page.

We promise to keep the site up to date with lots of interesting news. See you on the Web!